

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 to 32, 35 and 36 to read as follows.

Sub 1

1. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus comprising:

reception means for receiving images generated from a plurality of communication terminals;

output means for outputting the images received by said reception means in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images; and

notification means for acquiring and notifying of a state of distribution of the images by said reception means while said reception means is receiving the images, wherein the state of distribution comprises information relating to an actual frame rate of the images being received by said reception means.

2. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the state of distribution is information relating to a frame rate of an image being received by said reception means.

3. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said notification means changes the display unit in accordance with the state of distribution by said reception means.

4. (Original) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said notification means changes information displayed on the display unit in accordance with a frame rate of an image received by said reception means.

5. (Original) A communication apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the change in information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

6. (Original) A communication apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said notification means does not perform notification when the frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

7. (Original) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said notification means comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

8. (Currently Amended) A communication method comprising the steps of:  
receiving images generated from a plurality of communication terminals;  
outputting the received images in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images; and  
acquiring and notifying of a state of distribution of the images in said receiving step while performing said receiving step, wherein the state of distribution

comprises information relating to an actual frame rate of the images being received by said reception means.

9. (Previously Presented) A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein the state of distribution is information relating to a frame rate of an image being received.

E) 10. (Previously Presented) A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein said acquiring and notifying step changes the display unit in accordance with the state of distribution.

11. (Original) A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein said acquiring and notifying step changes information displayed on the display unit in accordance with a frame rate of a received image.

12. (Original) A communication method according to Claim 10, wherein the change in information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

13. (Original) A communication method according to Claim 11, wherein the notification is not performed when the frame rate is high, and is performed when the frame rate is reduced.

14. (Original) A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein the notification comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

E 1  
15. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus comprising:  
reception means for receiving a part or all of images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding communication terminals by switching the images;

output means for outputting the images received by said reception means in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images;

assigning means for assigning an arbitrary image from among the multiple images;

control means for controlling a state of outputting of the image assigned by said assigning means; and

notification means for acquiring and notifying of a state of distribution of the images by said reception means while said reception means is receiving the images,  
wherein the state of distribution comprises information relating to an actual frame rate of the images being received by said reception means.

16. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the state of distribution is information relating to a frame rate of an image being received by said reception means.

17. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said notification means changes the display unit in accordance with the state of distribution by said reception means.

18. (Original) A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said notification means changes information displayed on the display unit in accordance with a frame rate of an image received by said reception means.

19. (Original) A communication apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the change in information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

20. (Original) A communication apparatus according to Claim 18, wherein said notification means does not perform notification when the frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

21. (Original) A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said notification means comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

22. (Currently Amended) A communication method comprising the steps of:

receiving a part or all of images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding communication terminals by switching the images;

outputting the received images in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images;

assigning an arbitrary image from among the multiple images;

controlling a state of outputting of the assigned image; and

acquiring and notifying of a state of distribution of the images in said

5 ) receiving step while performing said reception step, wherein the state of distribution comprises information relating to an actual frame rate of the images being received by said reception means.

23. (Previously Presented) A communication method according to Claim 22, wherein the state of distribution is information relating to a frame rate of an image being received.

24. (Previously Presented) A communication method according Claim 22, wherein said acquiring and notifying step changes the display unit in accordance with the state of distribution.

25. (Original) A communication method according to Claim 22, wherein said acquiring and notifying step changes information displayed on the display unit in accordance with a frame rate of a received image.

26. (Original) A communication method according to Claim 24, wherein the change in information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

27. (Original) A communication method according to Claim 25, wherein the notification is not performed when the frame rate is high, and is performed when the frame rate is reduced.

28. (Original) A communication method according to Claim 22, wherein the notification comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

29. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program, said program comprising:

- reception process code for receiving images generated from a plurality of communication terminals;
- output process code for outputting the received images in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images; and
- notification process code for acquiring and notifying of a state of distribution of the images by said reception process code while said reception process code is receiving the images, wherein the state of distribution comprises information relating to an actual frame rate of the images being received by said reception means.

30. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program, said program comprising:

reception process code for receiving a part or all of images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding communication terminals by switching the images;

an output process code for outputting the received images in order to display the images on a display unit as multiple images;

E ) an assigning process code for assigning an arbitrary image from among the multiple images;

control process code of controlling a state for outputting of the assigned image; and

notification process code for acquiring and notifying of a state of distribution of the images by said reception process code while said reception process code is receiving the images, wherein the state of distribution comprises information relating to an actual frame rate of the images being received by said reception means.

31. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus comprising:

a reception unit for receiving images generated from a communication terminal;

an output unit for outputting the images received by said reception unit in order to display the images on a display unit; and



a notification unit for acquiring and notifying of a state of reception of said reception unit, the state of reception comprising a state of frame rate of the images received by said reception unit while said reception unit is receiving the images;

wherein said notification unit causes the display unit to display an image information of the state of frame rate state corresponding to the images from the communication terminal, which image information is different from the images received by said reception unit and displayed image on the display unit, and notifies of the state of frame rate state by changing the image information on the basis of the state of ~~the~~ reception of by said reception unit;

wherein said notification unit causes the display unit to display the image information of the state of the frame rate together with the received images, and not to display the image information when the received images are not displayed.

32. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein changing the image information is a change in a state of display of an icon ~~indicating a~~ indicating the corresponding the communication terminals terminal.

33. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein said notification unit does not perform notification when the frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

34. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein said notification unit comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals.

35. (Currently Amended) A communication method comprising the steps of:

receiving images generated from a communication terminal;

outputting the images received in said receiving step in order to display the images on a display unit; and

acquiring and notifying of a state of reception of said receiving step, the state of reception comprising a state of frame rate state of the images received in said receiving step while said receiving step is receiving the images;

6' wherein, said acquiring and notifying step causes the display unit to display an image information of the state of frame rate state corresponding to the images from the communication terminal, which image information is different from the images received by said receiving step displayed image on the display unit, and notifies of the state of frame rate state by changing the image information on the basis of the state of the reception of by said reception unit receiving step.

wherein said acquiring and notifying step causes the display unit to display the image information of the state of the frame rate together with the received images, and not to display the image information when the received images are not displayed.

36. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a program, said program comprising:

receiving code for receiving images generated from a communication terminal;

outputting the images received by said reception unit in order to display the images on a display unit; and

acquiring and notifying of a state of reception of said receiving step, the  
state of reception comprising a state of frame rate state of the images received in said  
receiving step while said receiving step is receiving the images

E' wherein, said acquiring and notifying step causes the display unit to display  
an image information of the state of frame rate state corresponding to the images from the  
communication terminal, which image information is different from the images received by  
said receiving step displayed image on the display unit, and notifies of the state of frame  
rate state by changing the image information on the basis of the state of the reception of by  
said reception unit receiving step.

wherein said acquiring and notifying step causes the display unit to display  
the image information of the state of the frame rate together with the received images, and  
not to display the image information when the received images are not displayed.